



*An in-depth study of what **God** has
revealed about Himself in Scripture*

A discipleship ministry of
True Life Church

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THE PURSUIT of God

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Importance of Theology

Theology is a compound word made up of *theo-*, which means G_____, and *-ology*, which means “the study of.” Therefore, theology is the study of God.

Theology is the study of God’s e_____ – who He is in his person and nature – as well as God’s attributes – how He m_____ himself and interacts with His creation.

A.W. Tozer

It is my opinion that the Christian conception of God current in these middle years of the twentieth century is so decadent as to be utterly beneath the dignity of the Most High God and actually to constitute for professed believers something amounting to a moral calamity.

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us...Man’s spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshipper entertains high or low thoughts of God.

To say that we believe in God without having a biblical basis for our beliefs is basically a form of i_____, because, without the biblical basis, we are worshipping a god that is a creation of our own imagination.

A.W. Tozer continues...

Among the sins to which the human heart is prone, hardly any other is more hateful to God than idolatry, for idolatry is at bottom a libel on His character. The idolatrous heart assumes that God is other than He is....

Let us beware lest we in our pride accept the erroneous notion that idolatry consists only in kneeling before visible objects of adoration, and that civilized peoples are therefore free from it.

The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him....I believe there is scarcely an error in doctrine or a failure in applying Christian ethics that cannot be traced finally to imperfect and ignoble thoughts about God.

In John 17:3, Jesus said, “...this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

Man’s Rejection of God

The reality is that we can never know God in all of His fullness. All that we know about God is limited to what He has r_____ about Himself.

Romans 1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools... 24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts... 28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

Mankind, faced with the knowledge of a God who demands accountability of His creation and who holds out the prospect of certain judgment at the end of time, did the only thing he could do to solve the problem – he r_____ God.

One of the most misapplied texts in the Bible is Proverbs 29:18, “Where there is no vision, the people perish...”

The verse is best translated to say, “Where there is no k_____ of God (Amp. “no redemptive r_____ of God), the people cast off all restraint (literally “get naked”).”

The Chief End of Man

The Westminster Shorter Catechism asks...

Question 1: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man's chief end is to g_____ God, and to e_____ him forever.

1 Cor. 10:31 Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (See also Ps. 86:9; Isa. 60:21; Rom. 11:36; 1 Cor. 6:20; Rev. 4:11)

Psalms 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. (See also Ps. 16:5-11; 144:15; Isa. 12:2; Luke 2:10; Phil. 4:4; Rev. 21:3-4)

Job 11:7 (Zophar, advisor of Job) Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? 8 It is higher than heaven – what can you do? Deeper than Sheol – what can you know? 9 Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.

Isaiah 40:28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

Rom. 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

God's Revelation of Himself

God revealed Himself through g_____ revelation.

He then revealed Himself through s_____ revelation.

- Jesus Christ
- B_____

If we would know God experientially and personally, we must come to know Him through His personal revelation, the Son, J_____.

If we would know God intellectually, we must come to know about Him through His written revelation, the B_____.

If we would know God spiritually and as fully as the revelation will allow, we must depend on the filling and the teaching of the H_____.

1 Cor. 2:10 These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ."

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PART 2: CONCEPTS of God

The Existence of God

Will Durant, a well-known historian and philosopher, said that the greatest question of our time is, "Can man live without God?"

Ravi Zacharias wrote a book that bears that question as its title in which he sought to answer two questions:

1. Does God **e**_____?
2. If God exists, what is His **c**_____ or nature?

Everything that other religions believe is not wrong. All religions contain some element of **t**_____.

However, all religions cannot be **c**_____ on all subjects, and when we discover a subject or belief on which other religions and Christianity disagree, we need to stand firmly on the point that only Christianity is true.

There can only be one **c**_____ answer to the questions of righteousness. And there can only be one answer to the question concerning the existence of God. Either He exists or He does not.

Beliefs Concerning God's Existence

The beliefs concerning the existence of God form the first great division among men concerning religion. When the existence of God is considered, there are three major belief systems:

1. A_____

Atheism is the deliberate, definite, dogmatic denial of the existence of God. It is not satisfied with appropriate truth or relative truth, but claims to see the ins and outs of the game quite clearly being the absolute denial of the absolute. (Etienne Borne)

Atheism is not merely a passive unbelief in God but an assertive denial of the major claims of all varieties of theism; atheism contradicts belief in God with a positive affirmation of matter as ultimate reality. (Ravi Zacharias)

Atheism may be...

- dogmatic (one who openly declares that they do not believe in any form of god).

- **p**_____ (characterized by an apathy towards God as with the lady seeking benevolence)

2. **A**_____

Believes that there is not enough empirical (scientific) evidence to make a determination if God exists or not.

The word “agnostic” means “without **k**_____.”

3. **T**_____

This group includes everyone else – those who acknowledge the presence of a Supreme Being of some sort.

This category can be further subdivided into several groups:

- **Dualism**

There are two equal forces in the Universe – Good and **E**_____ – vying for control..

- **Pantheism**

Typically ignores the transcendence of God and denies the personality of God. God is immanent in the Universe. In other words, God **is** the material universe; the **U**_____ is God.

“God is all; all is God.”

- **Deism**

Puts the emphasis on God’s transcendence to the neglect of His immanence. In other words, “God is present in creation only by his **p**_____, not in his very nature and being.”

- **Polytheism**

The belief in **m**_____ gods, typically resulting in idolatry.

- **Henotheism**

The adherent believes there are many gods in the universe, but they have singled out one of those gods as the focus of their worship.

M_____ is henotheistic. They worship only one god – the god of this world. However, they also believe that the god of this world was once a man who earned the right to be a god and that every man has the potential to become a god.

Since there are an unknown or infinite number of planets in the Universe, then there is an unknown or an infinite number of gods.

- **M**_____

Monotheism is the belief that there is only **o**_____ God.

There are three major belief systems in the world that are monotheistic: Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

Typically, the world sees our God as one who only exists in myths and in the apparently secret society of the **c**_____ fellowship.

J. B. Phillips

Many men and women today are living, often with inner dissatisfaction, without any faith in God at all. This is not because they are particularly wicked or selfish or, as the old-fashioned would say, "godless," but because they have not found with their adult minds a God big enough to "account for" life, big enough to "fit in with" the new scientific age, big enough to command their highest admiration and respect, and consequently their willing co-operation.

Typical Misconceptions about God

- **C**_____
- **F**_____ image
- **"Old man in the sky"**

We do not have a clear concept of biblical doctrines because we do not have a clear concept of the God who created us.

If we get it wrong about **G**_____, then we will get it wrong about everything else.

The Tri-Unity of God

One reason we have such a difficult time accepting the fact of the Trinity is that we tend to think of God in **p**_____ and material terms.

We think in terms of limits instead of **e**_____.

Islam rejects the concept of a trinity. Allah is without equal in the Universe and therefore could have no counterpart.

Mormonism does not believe in a Trinity because the god they serve was once a man.

The trinity is three separate Gods: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. "That these three are separate individuals, physically distinct from each other, is demonstrated by the accepted records of divine dealings with man," (*Articles of Faith*, by James Talmage, p. 35).

Jehovah's Witnesses quote 1 Cor. 14.33 that says, "God is not the author of confusion." The concept of the Trinity is confusing. Therefore, it cannot be true.

One could ask why the concept of three-in-one is so confusing since we see it in existence all of the time.

Reality:	Matter, Space, Time
Matter:	Energy, Matter, Phenomena or Motion
Space:	Length, Width, Height
Time:	Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow or Past, Present, Future
Mankind:	Body, Soul, Spirit or Mind, Emotion, Will

1. The Bible teaches that God is o_____.

God does not consist of parts. He is one – a unity.

Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Mark 12:29 Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'"

1 Tim. 2:5 For there is one God...

2. Several times the Bible refers to God with a plural pronoun:

Gen. 1.26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground..."

Gen. 11.7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.

Isaiah 6.8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

3. The Bible teaches very clearly that Jesus is God.

- He is called by the same divine **n**_____ as God: the first and the last, Alpha and Omega, Holy One, Lord, Savior
- He has the same divine **a**_____ as the Father: omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence, eternal, infinite, righteous
- He is assigned the same divine **o**_____ as the Father: creator, preserver, judge, forgiver of sin
- He receives the same divine **a**_____ as does the Father: prayer and worship.

Plus, the Bible specifically refers to Jesus as God:

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

NIV: No-one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

Rom. 9:5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen. (NIV)

NLT: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are their ancestors, and Christ himself was an Israelite as far as his human nature is concerned. And he is God, the one who rules over everything and is worthy of eternal praise! Amen.

1 John 5:20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true – even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

4. The Bible also teaches that the Holy Spirit is God.

- He bears the divine attributes of God: **e**_____, omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, holy
- He shares in the divine works of God: **c**_____, giving of life, inspiring Scripture, working miracles, involved in redemption
- He bears the divine names of God: equated with **J**_____

Furthermore, the Holy Spirit is directly referred to as God in the Bible.

Acts 5:3 Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

Compare the following sets of Scriptures which equate the Holy Spirit with God:

1 Cor. 3:16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

1 Cor. 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

Rom. 8:29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

2 Cor. 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

1 Cor. 2:10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

Rom. 8:27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(For more information on the Trinity, see the chart that accompanies these notes.)

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PART 3: PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES of God

Most people divide the attributes of God into two major categories:

- God's Personal Attributes
- God's Moral Attributes

I. God's Personal Attributes – God as a R_____ Spirit

A. Attributes of God's Person

1. S_____

John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2 Cor. 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2. I_____

1 Tim. 1:17 To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Col. 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

3. I_____ (does not mean insignificant or unimportant, but without a physical body – in contrast to Mormonism which teaches that God has a material body and was once a man)

Luke 24:39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.

Deut. 4:12 Then the LORD spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of words, but saw no form; there was only a voice.

John 5:37 And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen,

1 Tim. 6:16 who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproach-able light, whom no one has ever seen or can see.

Questions:

1) The Bible speaks of men having seen God.

- While on Mt. Sinai Moses asked God, "Show me thy glory. And (God) said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee...and he said, Thou canst not see my face; for man shall not see me and live...and thou shalt see my back: but my face shall not be seen" (Ex. 33:18-23).
- When God spoke to Moses "face to face" He spoke as "a man unto his friend," i.e., familiarly (Ex. 33:11).
- Moses, Aaron and his sons, and the elders of Israel "saw the God of Israel" (Ex.24:9-11)
- Isaiah saw the Lord high and lifted up, seated on His throne. (Isaiah 6:1-5)
- Daniel saw a similar vision of God (Dan. 7:9-10)

These men saw a manifestation of God in p_____ form of some sort, known as a theophany, but none of them ever saw God in all of His glory and majesty..

2) There are numerous references in Scripture to God having physical forms.

- Isaiah 59.1 hand, ear
- 1 Chron. 19.9 eye
- Matt. 4.4 mouth
- Ex. 33.18-23 back, face
- Ex. 24.9-10 feet

These are all referred to as anthropomorphisms – a huge word that simply means that God referred to himself in terms that men could comprehend.

Remember two things:

- 1) First of all, remember that God is not l_____ by time, space, or matter so that He does not operate under the same laws of physics that limit us to being in one place at a time.
- 2) Secondly, in Psalm 139:7, David asks, "Where shall I go from your Spirit?"

God is everywhere within the creation because His Spirit, which is part of the unity of the Trinity, is capable of being everywhere at the same time.

4. L_____

Joshua 3:10 And Joshua said, "Here is how you shall know that the living God is among you...

Psalm 42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Jer. 10:10 But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King.

Matt. 16:16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

5. P _____

A list of the personality characteristics of God:

Characteristic	Biblical Support
Jealous	Deut. 4.24; 6.15; Nahum 1.2; Ex. 34.14
Anger	Ps. 7:11
Love	1 John 4.8, 16
Will	Mark 3:35; Acts 13.36; 2 Tim. 1.1
Thinks	Isaiah 55.8-9; Psalm 139.17; 40.5; Job 13.3
Mind	Romans 11.34; 1 Cor. 2.16
Long-suffering	Ex. 34.6; Numbers 14.18; Psalm 86.15
Patient	Romans 15.5; 2 Peter 3.9
Kind	Psalm 26.3; 36.7; 63.3; Jeremiah 9.24
Forgiving	Eph. 4.32
Comforting	2 Cor. 1.3,4; 2 Cor. 7.6

God has all of the characteristics that are required of a being that has personality: mind, knowledge, and will.

6. U _____

Ex 15:11 Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

Deut. 4:35 ...the LORD is God; there is no other besides him.

Isaiah 43:10 Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

Isaiah 44:6 Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. 8 Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone."

1 Sam. 2.2; Isaiah 45.5,18,22; 1 Cor. 8.4-6; 1 Tim. 2.5

B. Attribute's of God's Being

1. E_____ /E_____ – without beginning or ending

Genesis 21:33 And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, and called there on the name of the Lord, the everlasting God.

Deuteronomy 33:27 The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Isa. 40:28 The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

1 Timothy 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. I_____ – exists outside of time and space with no limitations whatsoever.

- a. O_____

Psalms 139.1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me! 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

Job 37:16 (The Lord) is perfect in knowledge,

Ps. 147:5 ...his understanding is beyond measure.

- b. O_____

Jer. 23:24 Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

Psalms 139:7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost

parts of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

1 Kings 8:27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built!

c. O _____

Rev. 19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

Job 42:2 I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

Gen 18:14 Is anything too hard for the LORD?

Jer. 32:17 Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who has made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.

Matt. 19:26 Jesus said, "...with God all things are possible."

3. I _____ – God cannot be defeated and cannot die.

1 Tim. 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Tim. 6:16 (God) alone has immortality...

4. I _____ – God cannot change. To change would mean that God got either better or worse, but God is perfect and therefore cannot change.

Mal. 3:6 For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Heb. 6:17 So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

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PART 4: MORAL ATTRIBUTES of God

I. God's Moral Attributes – God as a R_____ Spirit

A. H_____ – the essential moral characteristic of God

Ps 99:9 ...the LORD our God is holy!

1 Sam. 2:2 There is none holy like the LORD; there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

Isa 57:15 tells us that God's very name is Holy.

Isaiah 6:3 And one (seraphim) called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

1 Peter 1:15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Because of His holiness, God cannot tolerate s_____ in any form or in any place.

Psalm 5:4 You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness; no evil dwells with you.

Sin is so abhorrent to God that it extends even to the p_____ who persists in it – who refuses to repent and accept the mercy God offers.

Psalm 5:5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all who do iniquity.

Psalm 11:5 The LORD examines both the righteous and the wicked. He hates those who love violence.

Prov. 6:16 There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, 19 a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

B. R_____/Just

Ezra 9:15 O LORD, God of Israel, you are righteous!

Psalm 116:5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous...

Psalm 119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness...

Psalm 145:17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

John 17:25 O righteous Father...

The righteousness of God is that attribute which defines as **r**_____ that which God does. God cannot sin and therefore cannot choose to do what is wrong. He does not have to make a choice between right and wrong because He is sovereign over all and determines within Himself what is right and wrong.

Deut. 32:4 (He is) a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

C. W_____

There are more references in the Bible to God's wrath, anger, and fury than to His love and tenderness. (A.W. Pink)

- ***God's wrath in the Old Testament:***

Ex. 34:6 The LORD passed before him (Moses on Mt. Sinai) and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..."

God's wrath is His response to **r**_____.

Deut. 9:7 Remember and do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day you came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

It is His response to **i**_____.

2 Chron. 24:18 And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs.

God must be **p**_____ and driven before He releases His wrath.

2 Chron. 36:16 ...they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD rose against his people, until there was no remedy.

Ezra 5:12 ...after our fathers had provoked the God of heaven to wrath (by their idolatry and rebellion), He gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed this house and carried the people away into Babylon.

- ***God's wrath in the New Testament:***

John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Rom. 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Rev. 19:15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

D. J_____

The Bible makes ten references to God's jealousy.

Deut. 4:24 ...the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Nahum 1:2 The LORD is a jealous and avenging God; the LORD is avenging and wrathful; the LORD takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his enemies.

It is such an integral part of who God is that it is even included in the Ten Commandments.

Ex 20:4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Ezekiel 39:25 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name.

E. The R_____

Deut. 32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Deut. 32:18 You deserted the Rock, who fathered you; you forgot the God who gave you birth.

1 Sam. 2:2 There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

2 Sam. 22:2 He said, "The LORD is my Rock and my fortress and my deliverer, 3 my God, my Rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my Savior; you save me from violence.

2 Sam. 22:32 For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a Rock, except our God?... 47 The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation,

2 Sam. 23:3 The God of Israel has spoken; the Rock of Israel has spoken to me...

Psalms 18:2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold... 31 For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?... 46 The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation...

Other references to God as our Rock in Psalms:

Psalms 28:1:1; 31:2,3; 42:9; 62:2, 6, 7; 71:3; 78:35; 89:26; 92:15; 94:22; 95:1

1 Cor. 10:1 I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 and all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

F. W _____

Meaning: forming the best plans and using the best means for carrying them out.

Rom. 16:27 to the only wise God be glory for ever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

1 Tim. 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

G. T _____

2 Sam. 7:28 And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant.

Numbers 23:19 God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind.

1 Sam. 15:29 ...the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.

Heb. 6:18 ...it is impossible for God to lie...

Titus 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

John 3:33 Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true.

Romans 3:4 ...let God be found true, though every man be found a liar...

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

H. G_____

1 Chron. 16:34 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endures forever.

Jer. 33:11 ...the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank-offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, "Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever." For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,' says the LORD.

Jer. 31:14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the LORD.

Hosea 3:5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

Psalms 25: 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to your mercy remember me for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. 8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

Psalms 107:8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Psalms 27:13; 33:5; 52:1; 68:10; 69:16; 86:5; 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 118:1; 118:29; 135:3; 136:1; 143:10; 145:9

Ex. 33:19 (God said to Moses), "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."

Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knows them that trust in him.

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

Rom. 2:4 ...do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

I. M_____ /Lovingkindness

Psalms 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Deut. 4:31 For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

Isa. 63:7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, and the great goodness

toward the house of Israel, which he has bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses.

God is absolutely s_____ in directing His mercy and compassion toward whomever He will.

Rom. 9:15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

In other words, His mercy cannot be demanded or coerced. It may be sought after, but whether to grant it is totally within the scope of His will.

J. Long-suffering/P_____

Meaning: to be mild and slow in avenging; to be slow to anger and slow to punish

Num. 14:18 The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression...

Psalms 86:15 But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

God's mercy and long-suffering are intended for a_____ mankind.

2 Pet. 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

1 Tim. 2:4 (God) wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

2 Peter 3:15 ...consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation...

Lam. 3:22 It is because the LORD is merciful that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness.

1 Tim. 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. 16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

God's longsuffering and patience is "a p_____ in God that enables him to endure everything that is necessary to accomplish all that he has planned."

Everyone who can be saved will be saved and everyone who is saved will be saved for e_____.

K. F_____

Deut. 33:27 The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Deut. 32:4 He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

1 Cor. 1:9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Cor. 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

2 Thess. 3:3 ...the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L. L_____

1 John 4:8 God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Love is not just a characteristic of God; love is the very **e**_____ of God. There is no defining or knowing God apart from His love.

The only way that man has any idea of the concept of God as love finds its source uniquely in the **B**_____.

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

Whom does God love?

- God loves the **S**_____.

Matt. 3:17 God said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

- God loves those who **I**_____ the Son.

John 16:27 ...the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

John 14:21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.

The Bible clearly teaches that God has a **g**_____ love for all mankind prior to their coming to acknowledge Christ as Lord.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 Tim. 2:4 (God) desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Rom. 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Eph. 2:4 God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved...

But God has a peculiar love – a **s**_____ love – reserved for those who become part of the kingdom – those who are the “beloved of God.”

John 17:22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Zeph. 3:17 The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

Rom. 8:29-39

God's love for His children is **l**_____

Psalm 103:11 ...as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

Eph. 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith – that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

God's love for His children is **e**_____

Psalm 136:1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.

God's love for His children is immutable or **u**_____

Micah 7:18 He does not retain his anger forever, because He delights in unchanging love.

What is the greatest evidence for the love of God?

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son...

God's love is proven by the fact that He **g**_____. In fact, there is no such thing as love until it is given away.

What other God is like our god?

- Allah?
- Hinduism?
- God of the Bible?

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers.

God's love is measured by His limitless **g**_____; it is tempered by His righteousness and **j**_____.

THE PURSUIT of God

PART 5: THE SOVEREIGNTY of God

All of the attributes of God hinge on the fact that God is sovereign.

Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary:

God's absolute right to do all things according to His own good p_____

God's sovereignty refers to the fact that God is the s_____ ruler and authority over all of the earth and the kingdoms of the earth. He is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Psalms 8:4 What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Numbers 23:19 God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Job 23:13 God is unchangeable, and who can turn him back? What he desires, that he does.

Psalms 103:19 The Lord has established His throne in the heavens; and His *sovereignty* rules over all.

Isaiah 46:9-11 Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose, 11 calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it."

Dan. 2:20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might...22 he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him.

Dan. 4:34 At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; 35 all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?" 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

Acts 4:25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One." 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.

1 Tim. 6:15 (God the Father) is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

- **God is sovereign over a_____ things**

Psalms 47:2 For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Psalms 103:19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Psalms 9:7 But the LORD sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice.

Psalms 115:3 Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

Psalms 135:6 Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

Isaiah 46:8 Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, 9 remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose."

Eph. 1:11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will.

- **God is sovereign over c_____**

Gen. 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Psalms 135:6 Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. 7 He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

Isa. 44:24 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: "I am the LORD, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself."

Matt. 5:45 God makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Rev. 4:11 Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

- **God is sovereign over the p_____ Universe**

Psalm 147:4 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Isa. 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.

Joshua 10:12-14 Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." 13 So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. 14 And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.

- **God is sovereign over a _____**

Psalm 104:21 The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. 22 When the sun rises, they steal away and lie down in their dens. 23 Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening. 24 O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25 Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great. 26 There go the ships, and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it. 27 These all look to you, to give them their food in due season. 28 When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. 29 When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

1 Kings 17:4 You shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there. 5 So he went and did according to the word of the LORD. He went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan. 6 And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Jonah 1:17 The LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah 4:6 Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. 7 But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered.

- **God is sovereign over angels & S _____**

God is sovereign over the angels.

Psalm 103:20 Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!

God is also sovereign over Satan.

“If God created all things and is in charge of all things, then did God create sin and evil?”

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

God created Lucifer knowing that he would become Satan.

Satan is ***not*** out of c_____.

God could destroy Satan at any time, but He does not.

In 2 Cor. 4:4, the Bible says that Satan is “the god of this world.” In 1 John 5:19 we learn that “the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.” Yet we are given assurance that even with all that, Satan can only operate within the sovereign will of God.

Job 1:12 And the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand.” So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Luke 22:31 Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, 32 but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.

Mark 1:27 He (Christ, who is God) commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.

1 Sam. 16:14 The Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. 15 And Saul’s servants said to him, “Behold now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.”

Judges 9:23 Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech:

Judges 9:23 God sent a spirit that stirred up trouble between Abimelech and the leading citizens of Shechem, and they revolted. (NLT)

1 John 5:18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

1 Cor. 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

- **God is sovereign over n_____**

Daniel 2:21 He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.

Daniel 4:17 The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the _____ of men.

1 Sam. 2:7 The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. 8 He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and on them he has set the world.

Luke 1:51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; 52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases.

Psalms 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. 3 "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.

Psalms 33:10 The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. 11 But the plans of the LORD stand firm _____, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Psalms 47:7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! 8 God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. 9 The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

Job 34:24 He shatters the mighty without investigation and sets others in their place.

Jer. 27:5 It is I who by my great power and my outstretched arm have made the earth, with the men and animals that are on the earth, and I give it to whomever it seems right to me.

Prov. 8:15 By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; 16 by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.

Isaiah prophesied that God chose C_____ to be the ruler of the Persians and to make it possible for Israel to return to Jerusalem 150 years before Cyrus came to the throne. Not only did he prophesy concerning Cyrus, but he did so by name.

Isaiah 44:28 God says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'"

Isaiah 45:1 Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

Acts 13:21 Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king...

Rom. 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

- **God is sovereign over m_____**

1 Sam. 2:6 The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up. 7 The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts. 8 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. For the foundations of the earth are the LORD's; upon them he has set the world. 9 He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. It is not by strength that one prevails; 10 those who oppose the LORD will be shattered. He will thunder against them from heaven; the LORD will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.

Jer. 1:4 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Isa. 49:1 Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.

Rom. 8:29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

2 Tim. 2:19 God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his."

Gal. 1:15 But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, 16 was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone;

- **God is sovereign over the a_____ of man**

Gen. 18:14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

Ex. 4:10 But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." 11 Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"

Jer. 1:6 Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” 9 Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

Ezekiel 3:26 And I will make your tongue cling to the roof of your mouth, so that you shall be mute and unable to reprove them, for they are a rebellious house. 27 But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” He who will hear, let him hear; and he who will refuse to hear, let him refuse, for they are a rebellious house.

Amos 3:6 Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid? Does disaster come to a city, unless the LORD has done it?

John 9:1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the w_____ of God might be displayed in him.”

Isa. 30:26 The moon will shine like the sun, and the sunlight will be seven times brighter, like the light of seven full days, when the LORD binds up the bruises of his people and heals the wounds he inflicted.

Hosea 6:1 Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds.

Heb. 9:27 ...it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

APPENDIX

One of the most controversial subjects in the evangelical church is the doctrine of election, or God's sovereignty in salvation. This is a question that has been debated since at least the Middle Ages and the Reformation period without any clear and generally accepted resolution.

It is one of those subjects whose solution God left as a mystery. For some reason, He retained pieces of the puzzle that would have allowed us perfect understanding. But God knew things would operate better if we were required to live by faith in His wisdom and dependence on His sovereign will.

While this is a study that lends itself more to a study of salvation, it is included along with this study guide simply to provide a resource for further study by anyone who wishes to pursue it.

God's sovereignty over the salvation of man

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. 65 And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father."

Matt. 11:27 No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Acts 13:48 And when the Gentiles heard this (that God had sent Paul to bring them salvation), they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

Acts 16:14 And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

John 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Rom. 9:16 So then it (salvation) depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

John 15:16 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you."

Eph. 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Deut. 7:6 You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. 7 It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2 Thess. 2:13 But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Peter 1:20 Who (Jesus) verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Rom. 8:29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Rev. 13:8 and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain.

God's sovereignty in salvation simply means that those who are saved are saved because God has chosen them for salvation. The Holy Spirit has given life to a dead spirit and understanding to a mind blinded by sin and by Satan. Those who are saved may be said to choose God, but only after God has first chosen them and enabled them to choose righteousness

Charles Spurgeon

If any man be saved, he is saved by divine grace and by divine grace alone; the reason of his salvation is not to be found in him, but in God. We are not saved as the result of anything that we do or that we will, but we will and do as the result of God's good pleasure and the work of His grace in our hearts. No sinner can prevent God; that is, he cannot go before Him, cannot anticipate Him. God is always first in the matter of salvation. He is before our convictions, before our desires, before our fears, and before our hopes. All that is good or ever will be good in us is preceded by the grace of God and is the effect of a divine cause within.

The Trinity Chart

by Matthew J. Slick

[The Trinity](#) | [The Deity of Jesus Christ](#) | [The Holy Spirit](#) | [The Trinity Chart](#)

God is a trinity of persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Father is not the same person as the Son; the Son is not the same person as the Holy Spirit; and the Holy Spirit is not the same person as Father. They are separate persons; yet, they are all the one God. They are in absolute perfect harmony consisting of one substance. They are coeternal, coequal, and copowerful. If any one of the three were removed, there would be no God.

There is, though, an apparent separation of some functions among the members of the Godhead. For example, the Father chooses who will be saved (Ephesians 1:4); the Son redeems them (Ephesians 1:7); and the Holy Spirit seals them (Ephesians 1:13).

A further point of clarification is that God is not one person, the Father, with Jesus as a creation and the Holy Spirit as a force (Jehovah's Witnesses). Neither is He one person who took three consecutive forms, i.e., the Father who became the Son who then became the Holy Spirit (United Pentecostal). Nor is the Trinity an office held by three separate Gods (Mormonism).

The chart below should help you to see how the doctrine of the Trinity is derived from Scripture. The list is not exhaustive, only illustrative. The first step is to establish how many Gods exist: one! Isaiah 43:10; 44:6; 45:14,18, 21, 22; 46:5,9.

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides Me there is no God" (Isaiah 45:5).

	FATHER	SON	HOLY SPIRIT
Called God	Philippians 1:2	John 1:1,14; Colossians 2:9	Acts 5:3-4
Creator	Isaiah 64:8, 44:24	John 1:3; Colossians 1:15-17	Job 33:4, 26:13
Resurrects	1 Thessalonians 1:10	John 2:19, 10:17	Romans 8:11
Indwells	2 Corinthians 6:16	Colossians 1:27	John 14:17
Everywhere	1 Kings 8:27	Matthew 28:20	Psalm 139:7-10
All knowing	1 John 3:20	John 16:30	1 Corinthians 2:10-11
Sanctifies	1 Thessalonians 5:23	Hebrews 2:11	1 Peter 1:2
Life giver	Genesis 2:7	John 1:3, 5:21	2 Corinthians 3:6, 8
Fellowship	1 John 1:3	1 Corinthians 1:9	2 Corinthians 13:14
Eternal	Psalm 90:2	Micah 5:1-2	Romans 8:11
A Will	Luke 22:42	Luke 22:42	1 Corinthians 12:11
Speaks	Matthew 3:17	Luke 5:20, 7:48	Acts 8:29, 11:12, 13:2
Love	John 3:16	Ephesians 5: 25	Romans 15:30
Searches the heart	Jeremiah 17:10	Revelation 2:23	1 Corinthians 2:10
We belong to	John 17:9	John 17:6	...
Savior	1 Timothy 1:1, 2:3, 4:10	2 Timothy 1:10; Titus 1:4, 3:6	...
We serve	Matthew 4:10	Colossians 3:24	...
Believe in	John 14:1	John 14:1	...
Gives joy	...	John 15:11	Romans 14:7
Judges	John 8:50	John 5:21, 30	...

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